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From Saturday February 1. to Tuesday February 4. 1718.

AT the Court at St. *James's*, the 2d Day of *February*, 1717.

His Majeſty in Council was this Day pleaſed to appoint the following Sheriffs, viz.

Hertford,	Pulter Foreſter, *Eſq;*
Leiceſter,	Thomas Smith, *Eſq;*
Stafford,	Thomas Whitby, *Eſq;*
Surrey,	John Van Hattem, *Eſq;*
Flint,	John Midleton, *Eſq;*
Merioneth,	Griffith Wynne, *Eſq;*

Whitehall, Feb. 3. On the 1ſt Inſtant a conſiderable Number of the Principal Proprietors in the South-Sea Company waited on His Majeſty at St. James's, and being introduced by his Grace the Duke of Newcaſtle, Lord Chamberlain, preſented the following Addreſs to His Majeſty. They were all admitted to kiſs His Majeſty's Hand, and His Majeſty was pleaſed to confer the Honour of Knighthood on George Caſwall, Eſq;

To the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty.

THE General Court of the South-Sea Company, crave Leave to acknowledge, with the greateſt Senſe of Gratitude, the many Marks of Your Royal Favour, which the Company have received ever ſince Your Majeſty's happy Acceſſion to the Crown; and in particular, the Honour done them in becoming a Proprietor in their Stock.

They therefore do, in the moſt Humble and Dutiful Manner, Beſeech Your Majeſty will be graciouſly pleaſed to grant them the further Honour of uſing Your Royal Name for their Governour in the enſuing Election.

His Majeſty's moſt Gracious Anſwer.

Gentlemen,

I Thank you for this Addreſs, and take this as a Mark of your Duty and Affection to Me: 'Tis a very great Satisfaction to Me, that I have had it in my Power to do you Good; and you may depend upon the Continuance of My Favour and Protection upon all Occaſions.

Weſtminſter, February 3.

His Majeſty came this Day to the Houſe of Peers, and being in his Royal Robes ſeated on the Throne, with the uſual Solemnity, Sir William Oldes, Gentleman Uſher of the Black Rod, was ſent with a Meſſage from His Majeſty to the Houſe of Commons, commanding their Attendance in the Houſe of Peers; the Commons being come thither accordingly, His Majeſty was pleaſed to give the Royal Aſſent to

An Act to enable His Majeſty to be Governour of the South-Sea Company;

And to three private Acts.

Madrid, Jan. 17. On the 13th Inſtant arrived a Courier in eight Days from Paris, with Diſpatches for the Duke de St. Aignan Ambaſſadour of France, who the ſame Day had a Conference with Cardinal Alberoni. We have Advice from Buenos Ayres, that a Spaniſh Man of War commanded by Captain Urdinzo, had brought in thither a French Ship richly laden which was coming from the South-Sea on her Return to Europe. The Marqueſs Mari, who commanded the Squadron employed in the Expedition againſt Sardinia, is gone to Montpellier, being in an ill State of Health; and 'tis ſaid Admiral Caſtanneta will be appointed to command the Fleet the enſuing Summer. The King has given Order for paying to the Counſellours of the ſeveral Councils their Salaries to the End of December laſt. Letters from Cadiz adviſe, that on the 7th Inſtant arrived there from Barcelona eight Men of War, viz. one of 80, one of 70, four of 60, one of 50, and one of 40 Guns; with a Fireſhip and two Hoſpital-Ships. We have an Account from Barcelona, that Preparations are making there for imbarking the two Regiments of Dragoons of Pezuela and Vallexo, which 'tis ſaid are to be tranſported to Sardinia.

Paris, Feb. 9. On the 7th Inſtant the Parliament ſent a Deputation to the Duke Regent, conſiſting of twelve Counſellours with the firſt Preſident at their Head. 'Tis ſince reported, that they repreſented to his Royal Highneſs that the many Councils now in being are unneceſſary and uſeleſs, as occaſioning great Delays in the publick Buſineſs, and being beſides very chargeable to the King. 'Tis ſaid they likewiſe deſired that an Anſwer might be returned to the Remonſtrances which the Parliament had cauſed to be made to his Majeſty.

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